GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6059
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
AGE FOR CHILD LABOUR
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to raise the minimum age for child labour in India from 14 years to 18 years in keeping with the ILO (Indian Labour Organisation) conventions;

(b) if so, the steps initiated in this direction so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) to (c): The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 defines `child` as a person who has not completed his fourteenth year of age.

The 87th Session of the International Labour Conference (ILC) held in June, 1999 unanimously adopted ILO Convention No. 182. Article 2 of the Convention defines a `child` as all persons under the age of 18 years. Action has been initiated through a process of consultation with other Ministries/departments as ratification of the Convention necessitates action to bring existing Laws/Acts defining the age of the child in the laws enforced by these Ministries in conformity with the ratified Convention.